

Hello MCT Family,

Our **annual membership meeting is February 15 at 7pm** via Zoom. Additional information will follow in the coming weeks on how you can be a part of that meeting.

The MCT Board wanted to give you an update as to what we have been up to. 2020 was definitely a different year for all of us, but despite the pandemic, MCT had a very good year that we hope can continue to grow throughout 2021 and into the coming years.

1. Our board met multiple times at **“the barn”** to organize and refresh (yes, we threw out some things) our inventory of props and costumes. As many of you already know, Drs. Ann and Paul Whetstone have both passed away. Earlier this month, we learned that we **now need to vacate “the barn”** and we are looking for any space that may be available to us. We have also been considering holding a capital funding project, in the hopes of finding land where we can someday build our own small theatre. For now, we just need space for storage. If you have any leads for space, or are interested in donating to our cause, please contact us at this email.
2. Unfortunately, we had to cancel many of our scheduled productions and performances during 2020; however, in November we partnered with the Victoria Players Children’s Theater in a **cross-audience mash-up event named DUETS** and then again in December for **Christmas DUETS**. These DUETS can be found on YouTube and you can access them through our website and Facebook page. As of January 20, the DUETS event produced 79 new Facebook likes, 1630 views of DUETS, and 1500 views of Christmas DUETS. We are calling this event a very successful one! To see the DUETS and Christmas DUETS follow these links: <https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PL0lItxNB59FHyG0506oGTNm5PDaNqL1OK>
https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PL0lItxNB59FG1d9eF9B-7r_Z08uYkKlec
3. MCT’s Spring Show **“Hindsight is 2020”** took place just before the pandemic hit and was a great success. Additionally, MCT performed at two Thornville churches before the pandemic hit.
4. In early 2020, **Roosters restaurant donated Roosters cards** to our organization as a fundraiser. We were able to raise money to help us purchase the rights to the musical *Chitty Chitty Bang Bang*. Unfortunately, the pandemic caused us to cancel that show, but we thank Roosters for their generosity and encourage our members to thank them by being patrons of their restaurant.
5. At the end of 2019, MCT sent two representatives to the **AACT National Directors Conference** in Wisconsin. We spent much of 2020 going through notes from that conference and making plans to implement changes and updates that follow community theatres across the nation.
6. New **production contracts** were developed for the production team members who will be helping us produce shows in the future, ultimately helping the organization as a whole.
7. **Membership fee changes** - It has been many years since a fee increase was implemented to be a member in our organization. This year, the board voted to raise membership fees to \$20 per person 19 years and older. Ages 18 and younger will remain free. The raise not only is necessary for the rising costs of theatre productions, but this fee increase will also allow us to protect our youngest of performers. Every performer age 19 and older will be required to have a background check. MCT has contracted with InquireHire and will pay for background checks every three years for each required individual.
8. This year our board voted to enact a **young performers council called Jr. ACT**. Jr. ACT stands for Jr. Advisory Council Team. This council will meet in tandem with our board and is available to anyone aged 8 to 18. Jr. ACT will meet at the beginning of our regular board meetings and will then present or further discuss their proposals to the board. Information on how a student may apply to be on Jr. ACT will be forwarded in the coming weeks.
9. Speaking of the board, we currently have two open **board positions**. The terms available are a 1-year and a 2-year term. Mary Dupler, our board president, is asking for any nominations for the board to be presented to her before February 12, 2021. Board positions will be voted on during the annual meeting. If you are unable to attend and would like to still participate in the voting, additional information will be sent out in the coming weeks.
10. During the shutdown, MCT took a good look at our inventory. We were able to successfully apply for and receive a **grant for new sound equipment**. This sound equipment will be used for all future indoor shows that we produce. We would like to thank The Ann Chess Fund of the Fairfield County Foundation for their donation of our grant funds. They will definitely be put to great use!
11. If you don’t know, MCT has **Facebook, Twitter and Instagram pages, as well as a website**. Please look us up on our social media pages and give us a like. Our website can be found at www.MCTohio.com.
12. This year, MCT also became a **member of the Central Ohio Theatre Roundtable**. This membership puts us in touch with other local theatre companies, and gives us a stage to show off some of our talented individuals and successful productions.
13. The **spring show for 2021 had to be canceled** because of the pandemic and our fear of gathering our members together during this time. We do hope we can get back on the stage this year. We miss you all and can’t wait to see you again!

Thank you for reading our recap of 2020. We hope you’ll stay with us for 2021 and help us make it a great one! Watch your email for details on how to be a part of the ongoing discussion of how to make Millersport Community Theatre the place for theatre. **Additional information about memberships will be sent in the coming weeks. Online payment options will also be available.**

We look forward to seeing you in 2021!